

FE 6000 (US)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 October 1, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the first Office action on the merits.

The following documents were cited in the International Search Report (copy enclosed) and are included on Form PTO-1449: EP 576,970; EP 604,908; WO 96/19488; WO 98/43989; and WO 99/36427. Copies of these references are not enclosed herewith inasmuch as copies of these documents have been sent by the International Bureau and received by the USPTO.

References cited in the application are also included on Form PTO-1449, and copies of these references are enclosed.

No payment is believed to be due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge USPTO deposit account 08-2336 any payment due and to credit any overpayment thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Luigi Resconi et al.

By:

William R. Reid

Registration No. 47,894 Attorney for Applicants

Enclosures
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage thereon with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on October 1, 2004, in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 1, 2004

Date of Signature

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